

Tuesday's back with reviews on albums like Cloud Nothing and Foxy.

**LIFE&ARTS PAGE 12**

Horns trying to bounce back against Iowa State

**SPORTS PAGE 7**

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Tuesday, January 24, 2012\*

## TODAY

### Calendar

#### Amnesty International

Find out more about the world's largest human rights organization at this informational meeting for the campus community. Meet at PAR 201 at 7:30 p.m.

#### Course Transformation Program panel

A panel titled "Milestones in Transformation: UT Austin's Course Transformation Program in Its First Year" features faculty commentary on instructional transformation at the university. The panel will start at 1 p.m. and will be held in ACE 2.302.

#### "Whitening" in Colonial Americas

Ruth Hill discusses the folk dimensions of caste and racial categories used by colonial letrados in late-colonial Latin America and the early republican United States. The talk will be held in BEN 2.104 from 4-5 p.m.

### Today in history

#### In 1946

The United Nations General Assembly passed its first resolution. This first resolution created the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission "to deal with the problems raised by the discovery of atomic energy" in 1946.

### Inside

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New self-defense class caters to women **page 6**

#### In Opinion:

Bill begins to tackle textbooks **page 4**

#### In Sports:

Neil Caskey just keeps swimming **page 7**

#### In Life&Arts:

Meryl Streep enters the Oscar race for the 16th time **page 12**



WATCH **TStv** ON CHANNEL 15

#### 9:00 p.m. Video Game Hour Live

For the first half hour, TStv has their 2011 Game of the Year Awards, including categories for multiplayer, handheld gaming, best story and more.

The second half features live gameplay of Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim. Tune in and tweet with them live on @VGHL

# Students dismayed over ban on camping

By Liz Farmer  
Daily Texan Staff

Students and faculty criticized University administration for a new rule restricting camping on campus and questioned the motivation at a time when camping is a prime symbol of the Occupy movement at a faculty council meeting Monday.

University spokesman Gary Susswein said the amendment to the Hand-

book of Operating Procedures took effect Jan. 11. The Office of Legal Affairs drafted the amendment. President William Powers Jr. then reviewed it and submitted it to the University of Texas System, where it was approved by the executive vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, Susswein said.

The amendment defines camping on campus as the attempt to establish temporary or permanent living quarters

outside University housing, sleeping outdoors between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. and setting up a sleeping area at anytime with tents and other "sleeping equipment." People may not camp on campus except in cases of sports tailgating, performances authorized by the University and natural disaster situations.

Patricia Ohlendorf, vice president for Legal Affairs, said the amendment is not a response to Occupy UT protest con-

cerns, but is supposed to clarify rules already enforced by the University.

Powers said the administration will help students interested in protesting.

"If it's the symbolic act of putting up tents we can work with that," Powers said.

Powers said the amendment is important to reiterate the University's position.

"I don't think we want people for long

periods of time camping on campus," Powers said.

The Occupy UT movement has protested against several grievances, including proposed tuition increases, but it has not used camping as a form of protest. Assistant English Professor Snehal Shingavi said the amendment seems like a response targeting the

**TENTS** continues on **PAGE 2**

# New guidelines protect immigrants

## Low priority immigrants escape deportation due to Obama administration

*Editor's note: This is the first in a three part series about how immigration law impacts higher education and the UT System.*

By Jody Serrano  
Daily Texan Staff

For the first time in three years, Raul Zamora's name does not appear on any upcoming immigration court dockets. The urban studies senior was detained as an undocumented immigrant in November 2009 and is one of thousands of undocumented immigrants to avoid deportation as a result of new deportation guidelines from the Obama administration.

"It doesn't mean that I'm safe," Zamora, who was subsequently denied work authorization after his case closed, said. "I'm still in legal limbo."

This past December, Zamora's deportation case was closed by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement department due to a series of new deportation guidelines issued by the Obama administration. The new guidelines encourage prosecutorial discretion,



Shannon Kintner | Daily Texan Staff

Urban studies senior Raul Zamora is one of many undocumented immigrants affected by new deportation guidelines from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. These new parameters allow for low-priority deportation cases within the immigration court to be closed.

**ICE** continues on **PAGE 2**

## Student group explores importance of food

By Rachel Thompson  
Daily Texan Staff

National dialogue about food production and consumption hits home with UT students in the new Food Studies Project.

The group held a live viewing party of the Jan. 21 TEDxManhattan conference, "Changing the Way We Eat," as its first public event of the semester. Founder Daniel Heron, a Spanish and Portuguese senior, has been involved with food advocacy on campus for a while. He said the idea for the new student-run group came to him during a recent road trip with a friend.

"We had this coming together moment and said, 'Why aren't we discussing food and food subjects in our studies?'" Heron said. "Why isn't there a program to discover the deeper meaning of food?"

Heron used this idea to help form

the Food Studies Project, a new organization of UT students working to bring people together to discuss current food issues and share a common love of food.

"Austin is a foodie city," Heron said. "Last spring, we launched our public campaign to have a new institute at UT to bring food studies here. It's been going well since then."

Heron said the organization is putting together an academic advising committee to reach out to other students, who can attend weekly meetings and get-togethers with local restaurant owners.

"Our main goal is to look at food holistically, coming from all perspectives," said Brittany Smith, Food Studies Project's lead editor of publications. "It's been a fun process watching it grow. The interest is really kind of snowballing."

Smith said the Food Studies Proj-

ect aims to address topics like nutrition as well as political issues and moral questions involving food production.

"We ask, 'Is the system we have bad?'" Smith said. "We're approaching some of those problems and trying to come up with solutions."

Heron said the project shares common interests with issues discussed at the TEDxManhattan conference in New York City. The seminar addresses topics such as abuses in the poultry industry, impacts of a high meat diet on the nation's health and the growing threat of antibiotic resistance.

Heron said he saw the conference as a way to link the Project's interest in food with a growing national awareness on these types of issues.

"Their goal is similar to ours," Heron said. "They want to start

**FOOD** continues on **PAGE 2**

## Co-creators introduce affordable downtown hostel for young adults

By Kayla Jonsson  
Daily Texan Staff

By this summer, downtown Austin will have a new place for tourists, musicians and students to stay on the cheap.

Firehouse Hostel co-founders Kent Roth and Collin Ballard, both Austin natives, said renovations will begin in about a month to convert office building Firehouse No. 1, located on Brazos and Sixth streets, into a hostel. Roth said the hostel will include eight bunk rooms, two European style rooms that share bathrooms and two suites with a

private bath.

Roth and Ballard said they plan to incorporate artwork by Austin artists in the rooms and hope to offer musicians travelling to Austin a place to stay, especially during annual Austin events such as South By Southwest and Austin City Limits.

"We are shooting to officially open the hostel in April or May," Roth said. "We really want to at least have it partially open for South By Southwest so we can give musicians a place to stay, even if it can't be overnight yet"

**HOSTEL** continues on **PAGE 2**

## Technology creates challenges, booksellers fight to compete

By Andrew Messamore  
Daily Texan Staff

Campus bookstores are fighting textbook wars as e-readers, online supplements and digital copies of textbooks, increase competition and shrink bookstores at UT.

BookHolders has the lowest listed prices for used textbooks for three core classes required by UT, according to data collected by the Daily Texan on four UT bookstores.

Austin Textbooks had the second lowest prices, followed by the Univer-

sity Co-op and West Campus Books. BookHolders works differently by offering an advantage program that co-signs customers as sellers of their books. The store sells the co-signer's book to other students instead of actually purchasing them, meaning that the listed prices could be misleading since the lowered prices also reflect money lost by students.

From 2000 until 2005 the University Co-op was the only bookstore on

**BOOKS** continues on **PAGE 2**



A student strolls through the aisles of the University Co-op, Monday. Though competition from online competitors and rival bookstores is high, the Co-op remains the most attractive option for students looking to buy their books quickly.

Gabriella Belzer  
Daily Texan Staff



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FOR THE RECORD

**Clarification:** A calendar item in the Jan. 23 edition of The Daily Texan indicated the Bach Cantata concert would be today, Jan. 24. The concert is actually Jan. 31.

TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High  
66



Low  
60

"I'd marry Meryl Streep."

HOSTEL

continues from PAGE 1

The estimated prices for the rooms are \$30 for bunks and \$90 and up for the European style rooms and suites, Roth said.

The business partners were introduced because they each had their own independent plan to make a hostel.

"We had both travelled through hostels a lot around the world and found them very useful and efficient, so we wanted to bring that to other people," Roth said.

Roth and Ballard said they are pleased with finding a location in downtown Austin for a hostel because so many young people spend time there.

"We were looking at other locations for the hostel but when the opportunity arose downtown we chose it," Roth said. "Downtown is where many of our potential customers will probably be."

Students for Study Abroad President Sara Law said the hostel will help foreign exchange students by offering a place for their families to stay when visiting Austin.

"I think [the hostel] will have more of an impact on visitors than it will



Kent Roth and Collin Ballard co-founded Austin's Firehouse Hostel near sixth street and Brazos. Roth and Ballard plan for the downtown hostel, which is housed in 117-year-old Firehouse No. 1, to be open by the summer.

Shannon Kintner  
Daily Texan Staff

for foreign exchange students to Texas because UT sets up students in their own dorms," Law said. "Perhaps when their leases are finished they will appreciate the hostel's affordability and convenience."

Law said she hopes The Firehouse Hostel will offer the same experience she has heard foreign hostels bring to tourists.

"Abroad, [hostels] are considered a better way to truly visit and under-

stand the cultural center of that city without paying the exorbitant price," Law said.

Architecture senior Brian Anderson said he thinks young people will take advantage of the location and

price of the establishment.

"I have stayed in hostels when I traveled and had a really good experience for a small amount of money," Anderson said. "It will attract young people, especially because it's downtown."

FOOD

continues from PAGE 1

collaboration in the work field, we want to do it here on campus."

The Food Project's outreach director Ronak Patel said he hopes the TEDxManhattan conference will draw more attention to issues the project members hope to address at UT.

"I think it's a great opportunity for us to start off the year," Patel said. "I think it will generate a lot of hype here in Austin."

For all the important issues the project addresses, Heron said its main purpose is simple.

"It's really about bringing people together," he said. "We want students to come and connect with working professionals to see what we can implement here."

FOOD STUDIES

Upcoming events apart of the food study program

FSP Weekly Meeting WELCOME	1/25 6:00p.m.
Farmer's Market Trip - Downtown Farmer's Market	1/28 9:30p.m.
Talk by Rachel Laudan "Pasties, Migrants, and Choosing our Memories	2/1 6:00p.m.

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Occupy movement.

"I think that it has a political motivation," Shingavi said. "It's been presented in a way to intimidate students from protests."

Marketing professor Mark Alpert said there are rational reasons to limit camping, such as campus safety. He said the amendment is not an administrative attempt to limit free speech, but is an important clarification to provide to students.

"I think this administration is

trying to encourage students to protest," Alpert said. "A lot of people are trying to work to help people to disagree with us."

Lucian Villaseñor, Mexican-American studies senior and Occupy UT member, said it feels like the administration is trying to squelch Occupy UT. Villaseñor said occupying a space at UT is still a possibility if membership numbers increase.

"The only way to receive any change here is to not operate with-

in the system," Villaseñor said.

Villaseñor said the administration should not make exceptions for other groups if Occupy UT is not allowed to camp out. He said administrators approached individual Occupy UT members but did not attend general meetings to discuss the camping issue.

"They're trying to outline how we can have a toothless protest," Villaseñor said. "Maybe they think we're a threat to the University."

BOOKS

continues from PAGE 1

campus. It remains the most popular destination for people trying to find recently updated books quickly, said Spanish junior Jonathan Hernandez.

"Sometimes professors tell us that they want the most updated information in their books, so we have to buy these new editions that only the Co-op has," Hernandez said. "Professors

try to find cheaper editions, but they take weeks to come in and you have to come here and buy the books since you don't want to fall behind two or three chapters."

When the Co-op isn't able to stock a book, necessity brings students into other stores where the needed text is available, said economics junior Ramses Elserwy.

"Usually the Co-op has everything I need, but only Austin Textbooks had the new edition that I had to have for class," Elserwy said. "I figure the books are always going to be expensive. If you need a book, you got to do it."

The increasing availability of books on Amazon and other providers means that the cheapest deals can now be found online, said business and pre-pharmacy junior Christine Dinh.

"The Co-op is first because I know they'll have the books I'll need, but then I'll go online," Dinh said. "Usually my friends are willing to sell their books for cheap, but I think that Amazon has the best prices."

The movement towards buying books and digital publications online is shrinking the market for campus

bookstores, said Austin Textbooks owner Ken Jones. He said he was surprised that other stores are trying to compete and expand in a market that is dwindling.

"In five years my store and all the other stores will be gone because the industry is changing," Jones said. "There are incredible amounts of online competition, professors are putting information online, and there are more packets of information coming out than we can keep up with. I see the writing on the wall."

However, the diminishing role of bookstores does not necessarily mean that students will get better deals, Jones said.

"One thing that kids don't really know is that books have a margin in them — that's how bookstores make money," Jones said. "With Amazon you have a paradigm shift. They have no margin and the prices work like a stock market. You check the prices of books two months from now and you'll be surprised to see how much they've dropped. The publishers make more money like that."



Illustration by Colin Zelinski

ICE

continues from PAGE 1

which classifies cases like Zamora's as low priority to the U.S. government and removes them from the immigration court docket. ICE director John Morton announced these guidelines in an internal memo in June and government agencies have been enforcing them since.

ICE plans to review all upcoming cases due in immigration court and use the new guidelines to prevent clogging immigration court, according to the department's website.

In the memo, Morton advised officers to close low priority cases and focus on high priority deportation cases involving illegal immigrants with a criminal record. Low priority cases include those involving DREAM act students, students who have finished high school, individuals over 65, individuals who were very young when they were brought to the U.S. and individuals with ties to the U.S. military, among others.

These guidelines do not grant undocumented immigrants the right to work, even after their deportation case has been closed. ICE has recently come under fire for the guidelines because although they close certain cases, they do not terminate them. ICE officials can

choose to reopen them at any time.

Gregory Palmore, ICE Houston field office spokesman, said Central Texas accounted for 14 percent of the nation's total deportations in 2010, and the rate has remained high.

Denise Gilman, clinical law professor and Zamora's lawyer, said the new guidelines are a positive move by the Obama administration but do not do enough to give closure to defendants.

"All the guidelines say is that certain individuals in a category will not be removed," Gilman said. "It leaves them in a legal limbo where they are not allowed to find work and integrate."

Gilman said the administration could go further to address issues in the undocumented community by expanding the categories of people who might have their cases closed, terminating the cases, providing work authorization and encouraging officers to follow the new guidelines.

House judiciary chairman Lamar Smith, R-San Antonio, opposes the new guidelines and said they are the equivalent to "backdoor amnesty." Smith said according to recent information by The Associated Press, 1,600 illegal immigrants have benefited from the pilot program in Baltimore and Denver. These immigrants will subsequently apply for work authorization, he said, affecting American workers.

"If these results play out in Texas, thousands of illegal immigrants will be granted administrative amnesty and thousands of Texans will find it harder to get jobs," Smith said. "How can the Obama administration justify granting work authorization to illegal immigrants when so many American citizens don't have jobs? Citizens and legal immigrants should not be forced to compete with illegal workers for scarce jobs."

With his fall 2012 graduation looming closer, Zamora said he will continue to fight for work authorization. His case will be featured this Saturday in the Texas as Dream Alliance Summit, a clinic offering undocumented students free legal advice on their individual cases.

"ICE needs to look at the human side," he said. "We're not just numbers, we're people. All we want is an education and to make our families proud and for future generations to get an education."

## Texas Student Media Board of Operating Trustees has openings for 4 student board positions.

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**1/24/12**

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NEWS BRIEFLY

Poland unfazed by Anonymous, plans to go ahead with ACTA

WARSAW, Poland — Polish officials vowed Monday to stick to plans to sign an international copyright treaty that has outraged Internet activists and prompted an attack on government websites.

A government minister, Michal Boni, defended the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement, or ACTA. He said that signing the international treaty would not hamper Internet usage and that Poland will sign it on Thursday, as planned.

“The ACTA agreement in no way changes Polish laws or the rights of Internet users and Internet usage,” Boni, the minister of administration and digitization, said after a meeting with Prime Minister Donald Tusk and Culture Minister Bogdan Zdrojewski.

Internet opponents of ACTA fear it could lead to censorship online.

Monday’s developments came after a Twitter account using the name “AnonymousWiki” announced plans on the weekend to attack government websites to protest the government’s support for ACTA.

Although its scope is broader, ACTA shares some similarities with the hotly debated Stop Online Piracy Act, which was shelved by U.S. lawmakers last week after Wikipedia and Google blacked out or partially obscured their websites for a day as part of a protest against Web censorship.

Gingrich’s Freddie Mac files show he wasn’t hired as a lobbyist

TAMPA, Fla. — Under pressure, Newt Gingrich arranged the release of a contract Monday night showing the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. paid his consulting firm a \$25,000 monthly retainer fee in 2006, for a total of \$300,000.

The agreement calls for “consulting and related services” but makes no mention of lobbying.

Gingrich has likened his work for the federally-backed mortgage giant known as Freddie Mac to that of a historian, and later a strategic adviser. Campaign rival Mitt Romney says he was lobbying.

The work the former House speaker did for Freddie Mac was disclosed long ago, but controversy has flared in the 48 hours since he trounced Romney in the South Carolina Republican presidential primary.

The next primary is set for Jan. 31 in Florida, a state particularly hard hit by the housing crisis of 2008, and one where Gingrich’s connections with Freddie Mac may carry a political stigma.

France recognizes WWI genocide

PARIS — A bill making it a crime to deny the 1915 killings of Armenians was a genocide has passed both houses of France’s parliament.

The Senate’s vote Monday came despite Turkey’s threats to impose new sanctions on France. It already suspended military, economic and political ties when the lower house of French parliament passed the bill last month.

The measure now needs to be signed by President Nicolas Sarkozy, whose party proposed it, to become a law.

While most historians contend that the 1915 killings of Armenians as the Ottoman Empire broke up was the 20th century’s first genocide, Turkey vigorously denies that.

Tennessee veteran police officer took one last drag before fired

NEWBERN, Tenn. — A Tennessee police department says it has fired an officer after 17 years on the force because he repeatedly smoked cigarettes inside the precinct in violation of the city’s no smoking policy.

Newbern police Sgt. James Bishop was terminated last week. A 2007 city policy prohibits smoking inside all municipal offices and buildings.

According to the termination letter obtained by the State Gazette, Police Chief Harold Dunivant said he had complaints that his employees were smoking inside their offices and issued a warning that disciplinary action could be taken.

Dunivant said he continued to get complaints about Bishop smoking indoors and was forced to fire him.

Iran threatens to cut off oil over EU sanctions

By Brian Murphy and Nasser Karimi  
The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Senior Iranian lawmakers stepped up threats Monday that Islamic Republic warships could block the Persian Gulf’s oil tanker traffic after the latest blow by Western leaders seeking to rein in Tehran’s nuclear program: a punishing oil embargo by the European Union that sharply raises the economic stakes for Iran’s defiance.

The EU decision in Brussels — following the U.S. lead to target Iran’s critical oil exports — opened a new front against Iran’s leadership. Pressure is bearing down on the clerical regime from many directions, including intense U.S. lobbying to urge Asian powers to shun Iranian crude, a nose-diving national currency and a recent slaying in what Iran calls a clandestine campaign against its nuclear establishment.

In response, Iranian officials have turned to one of their most powerful cards: the narrow Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf and the route for a fifth of the world’s oil. Iran has rattled world markets with repeated warnings it could block the hook-shaped waterway, which could spark a conflict in the Gulf.

Military experts have questioned whether Iran has the naval capabilities to attempt a blockade. But the U.S. and allies have already said they would take swift action against any Iranian moves to choke off the 30-mile wide strait — where the American aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln, along with British and French warships, entered the Gulf on Sunday without incident.

The British Ministry of Defense said the three nations sought to “underline the unwavering international commitment to maintaining rights of passage under international law.”



Kamran Jebreili | Associated Press

A boat crosses the Persian Gulf waters, south of the Strait of Hormuz while passing trading ships. Even as sanctions squeeze Iran ever tighter, one clandestine route that remains open for business: a short sea corridor connecting a rocky nub of Oman with the Iranian coast.

A member of Iran’s influential national security committee in parliament, Mohammad Ismail Kowsari, said Monday that the strait “would definitely be closed if the sale of Iranian oil is violated in any way.” He went on warn the U.S. against any “military adventurism.”

“In case of threat, the closure of the Strait of Hormuz is one of Iran’s rights,” said senior lawmaker Heshmatollah Falahatpisheh. “So far, Iran has not used this privilege.”

It follows U.S. sanctions enacted

last month that target the Central Bank and its ability to sell petroleum abroad. The U.S. has delayed implementing the sanctions for at least six months, worried about sending the price of oil higher at a time when the global economy is struggling.

But there are no signals from Iran that the tougher sanctions will force concessions on the core dispute: Iran’s ability to enrich uranium. Earlier this month, Iran said it was beginning enrichment at a new facility buried in a mountainside south

of Tehran.

“Iran’s right for uranium enrichment is nonnegotiable,” said conservative Iranian lawmaker Ali Aghazadeh. “There is no reason for Iran to compromise over its rights. But Iran is open to discussions over concerns about its nuclear program.”

Russia — which strongly opposed the EU sanctions — said in a statement: “Under pressure of this sort, Iran will not make any concessions or any corrections to its policies.”

Within Iran, meanwhile, securi-

ty officials are on higher alert over what they claim is a covert campaign led by Israel’s Mossad and backed by U.S. and Britain. On Jan. 11, a magnetic bomb placed on a car killed scientist who worked at Iran’s main uranium enrichment facility. It was at least the fourth targeted killing of a nuclear-related researcher in two years.

The U.S. denied any role in the January attack, but Israel’s military chief hinted that Iran could face incidents that happen “unnaturally.”



Khaled Elfiqi | Associated Press

The parliament elected in Egypt’s first legislative vote after Hosni Mubarak’s ouster with Islamists dominating the 498-seat chamber.

Lawmakers open up Egyptian parliament

By Hamza Hendawi and Sarah El Deeb  
The Associated Press

CAIRO — With Islamists comprising the overwhelming majority of its lawmakers, the parliament elected in Egypt’s first legislative vote after Hosni Mubarak’s ouster nearly a year ago held its inaugural session on Monday.

The convening of the new parliament is a significant benchmark in the timetable provided by the generals who took over from Mubarak for the handover of power to a civilian administration.

It is also a step forward for Islamist groups on the road to becoming the strongest political force in the nations that experienced Arab Spring revolts. Islamists dominated elections first in Tunisia and then in Egypt, and Libya’s Islamists are also expected to do well in parliamentary voting later this year.

The Egyptian chamber’s top priority is to elect a 100-member panel to draft a new constitution, which will have to be put to a vote in a referendum.

The next major step in the transition will be presidential elections, scheduled to be held before the end of June, when the generals are due to step down.

“The era of political exclusion is over,” said Saad el-Katatni, an Islamist lawmaker from the

Muslim Brotherhood, Egypt’s largest and best organized political group. El-Katatni, secretary general of the Brotherhood’s political arm — the Freedom and Justice party — was elected as speaker by a vast majority of the 508-seat chamber.


“We are here because the People’s Assembly (parliament) is all Islamists,” said Mina Samir, a protester in his early 20s who was among several thousand demonstrators near the parliament building calling for an end to military rule. “Now we have a military power supporting a conservative power. That’s why I am here.”

Some of the protesters wore masks made out of photographs of those killed or wounded by security forces during the anti-Mubarak uprising, or in subsequent protests against the generals. “Down, down with military rule!” they chanted, and, “No military and no Brotherhood.”

Others waited outside parliament with flowers they said they planned to give to their lawmakers. They chanted religious songs to the beat of drums.

Monday’s session was chaired by el-Saqqah, because he was the oldest lawmaker.

He began the proceedings by ordering lawmakers to stand in silence for a minute in memory of the hundreds of protesters killed during the protests.



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OVERVIEW

# Tackling rising textbook costs

Faculty Council passed a resolution Monday that requires faculty members to submit the textbooks they plan to use for their classes to bookstores at least 30 days before the first day of class.

The council is responding to a multi-pronged bill passed by the Legislature last year that intended to cut textbook costs for students. By requiring faculty members to submit their book lists ahead of time, bookstores are able to better anticipate the number of textbooks to order, and students are given more time to explore alternative means of acquiring their textbooks.

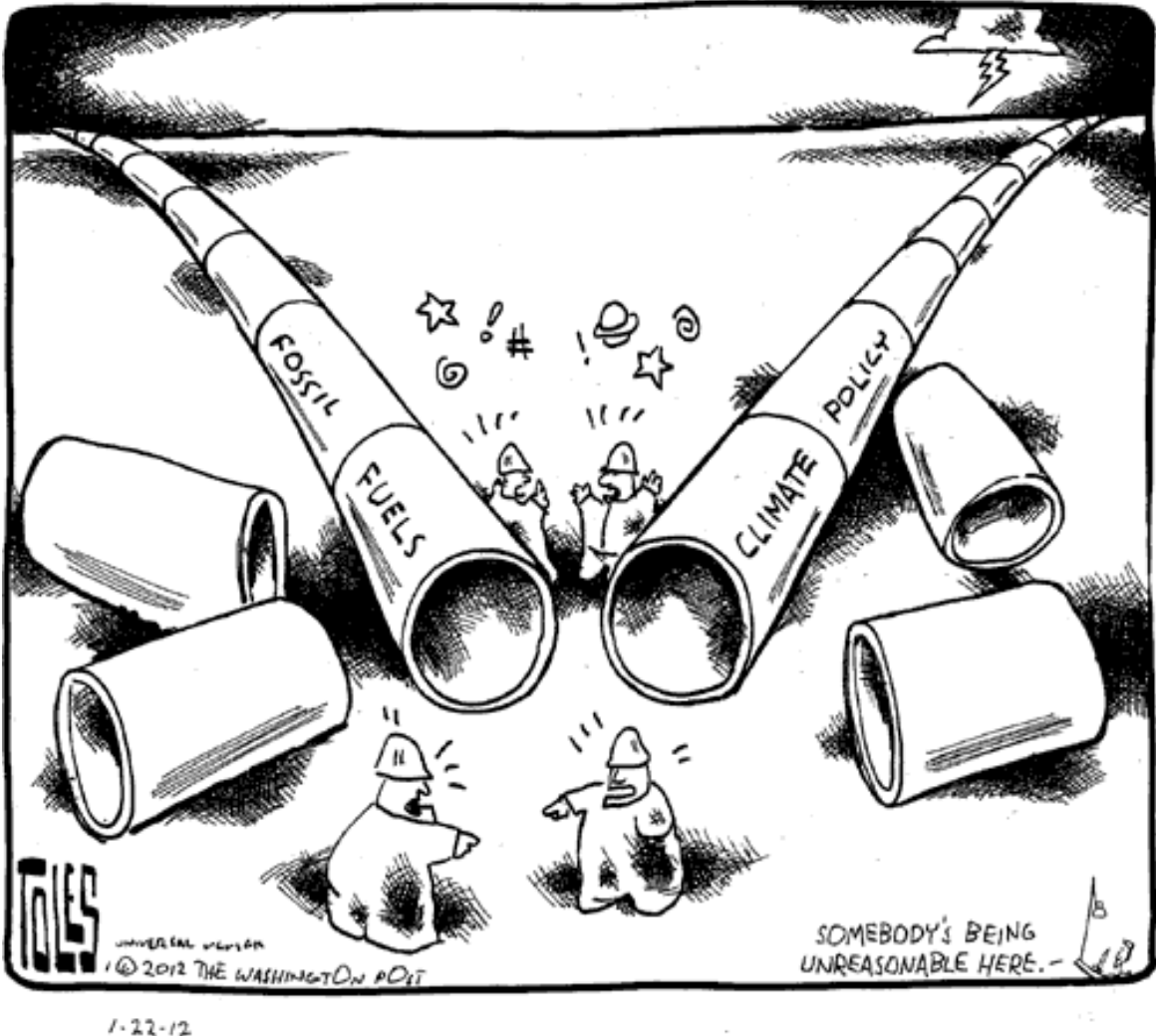
Other parts of the bill require textbook companies to disclose what changes are made in newer editions of textbooks, although some parts of the bill will not take effect until the fall semester.

There are a few logistical issues that still need to be worked out, as a several faculty members at the meeting mentioned that they are not always notified of which classes they will have to teach until near the start of the semester. For the most part however, the bill is an efficiency-boosting deal and the council's resolution shows a good-faith effort to follow through with that.

The rising cost of textbooks is far from a fresh issue, and it is a tenet in the conversations about affordability in higher education that occur in circles ranging from state legislators to the Obama Administration. At system schools such as UT-Brownsville and UT-Pan American, textbook costs can comprise more than one-fourth of the total cost of education.

At the root of the rising costs is an uncertainty of revenues for textbook companies. With a large used-textbook market, publishing giants aggressively churn out and push new editions of textbooks onto faculty members and students, and the companies charge egregious premiums in anticipation of lost revenue from books being resold.

While the Legislature and Faculty Council have both taken positive steps to reduce costs, universities across the country will need to come up with more creative solutions to alter a business model that continues to tax students disproportionately.



# A renewed call for vigilance

By Larisa Manescu  
Daily Texan Guest Columnist

In the last three months, off-campus areas populated with University students have been the scenes of crime, with three sexual assault incidents occurring in West Campus in early November and two assaults and a homicide in North Campus earlier this month. But these types of incidents are not new, and thus news should not be regarded as an indication of a rising epidemic of crime but rather a constant reminder to students of the frequently overlooked dangers of living in a seemingly secure area.

Both West Campus and North Campus are neighborhoods that possess a spirited and united vibe. They are home to thousands of college-aged students who feel confident enough to wander around at night in vulnerable situations, such as being alone or inebriated, without using better judgment concerning their surroundings and the defenseless position they are putting themselves in.

The chaotic atmosphere of these neighborhoods, where peculiar situations and

loud hollering spark little concern, provides excellent opportunities for crime to occur unnoticed. In an article in The Daily Texan following the November assault in West Campus, a UT junior commented on the reason criminal activity may be mistaken for typical ridiculous behavior in the area: “Most of the time it’s a bunch of drunk people at night, so if you saw that, at first glance you might assume that’s what was going on.”

However, the solution is not to live in a state of perpetual paranoia or fear of leaving one’s residence. Concern for one’s safety should never be an inconvenience but rather a natural precaution that is taken. Informing students repeatedly with phrases that police departments and other groups use, such as “maintain good judgment,” “avoid walking alone” and “stay in lighted areas,” makes being the victim of a crime seem like a distant possibility. The thought process that typically passes through my own mind when informed of a crime through Campus Watch is brief panic, reassurance that nothing of the sort has ever happened to me and an assumption that it will not

happen to me in the future.

This psychological reaction to crime seems deep-rooted and unavoidable, so a non-psychological solution must be presented. For example, James Shaw, the founder of Resist Attack, a local company that sells personal and home security products, proposed the ambitious goal of providing every woman in America with a free can of pepper spray.

The family-owned Austin company is beginning its mission right here at the University, as Shaw believes the females most susceptible to danger, including students, should receive cans of the spray first. Shaw will speak at a self-defense program and distribute pepper spray cans Thursday at Kinsolving Dormitory.

Carrying pepper spray and learning to use it effectively are minor lifestyle changes that could potentially hold invaluable benefits, as it provides a reliable escape route for victims. Even those who remain aware of their surroundings can be the victims of crime.

Manescu is a journalism and international relations freshman.

EGALESE

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By You  
Daily Texan Columnist

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The Daily Texan Editorial Board is currently accepting applications for columnists and cartoonists. We’re looking for talented writers and artists to provide as much diversity of opinion as possible. Anyone and everyone is encouraged to apply.

Writing for the Texan is a great way to get your voice heard. Our columnists’ and reporters’ work is often syndicated nationwide, and every issue of the Texan is a historical document archived at the Center for American History.

Barack Obama may not be a frequent reader, but a copy of the Texan runs across UT President William Pow-

ers Jr.’s desk each day, and the opinions on this page have great potential to affect University policy.

It’s no rare occurrence for Texan staff members to receive feedback from local or state officials, or to be contacted by a reader whose life was changed by an article. In such instances, the power of writing for the Texan becomes real, motivating our staffers to provide the best public service possible.

If interested, please come to the Texan office at 25th and Whitis streets to complete an application form and sign up for an interview time. If you have any additional questions, please contact Viviana Aldous at (512) 232-2212 or [editor@dailytexanonline.com](mailto:editor@dailytexanonline.com).

You can be a Daily Texan columnist or cartoonist.

Have something to say? Your words could be here.







Students practice Ving Tsun Kung Fu at the Moy Yat Kung Fu Academy Monday evening. Moy Yat Kung Fu Academy is offering two free months of Womens' Self Defense classes to women sixteen years and older.

Batli Joselevitz  
Daily Texan Staff



# Self-defense instructor hopes to help women of all ages, sizes

By Sylvia Butanda  
Daily Texan Staff

Self-defense classes teach women not only to protect themselves with tasers and pepper spray, but also with their own body when those weapons fail them, said kung fu instructor Aaron “Moy 10 Tung” Vyvial.

His school, The Moy Yat Kung Fu Academy, will be offering free self-defense classes for women of all ages for the next two months to teach defense mechanisms that will help women be confident in their abilities but not overconfident to the point where they are unrealistic, Vyvial said. Vyvial launched the program in response to a series of December and January attacks in central Austin, including the Jan. 1 murder of 29-year-old Esme Barrera, a North Campus resident.

“What most martial arts programs teach is highly dangerous for women because you either have to be extremely athletic or skilled for it to work,” Vyvial said. “Most techniques do not apply to the average person,

and if those techniques fail, it could actually escalate the issue and make it much worse.”

In a mugging situation, if the mace spray or taser gun a woman is carrying doesn’t work the way it is supposed to, she should always have a back up plan in place, Vyvial said. “Your own body is still your last line of defense,” he said. “This doesn’t replace your weapons, this is just what happens when they don’t work.”

Around 300 women have already signed up for the two-hour self-defense classes offered twice a week, which will teach mental and physical techniques to the average woman. “The first hour is focused on mental strategies such as avoidance, awareness, de-escalation and body language,” Vyvial said.

The second hour teaches women ving tsun, a martial art specifically suited to women.

“Ving tsun doesn’t rely on size, strength or speed,” Vyvial said. “We have women who are in their 60s and 70s coming, so that’s proof that women of any size or shape can take

the class.”

The UT Police Department offers a similar course, the Rape Aggression Defense System, or RAD, for students each semester.

“The reason students, friends and families decide to take the course is to be more aware of some of the things they can do protect themselves,” said RAD program coordinator Sgt. Laura Davis.

Both the Academy and the RAD program teach women to be powerful, confident and aware of their surroundings.

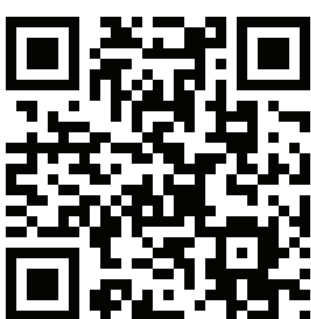
“It’s more than just a physical aspect,” Davis said. “We teach women to be empowered and to take preservative measures.”

Biology senior Carolina Gonzales is president of the Texas Wushu Club that practices the Wushu martial art through forms, weapons and fighting.

“Protecting ourselves is our innate animal instinct and women should always fight back,” Gonzales said. “However, women need to know how to fight back properly. Self-defense doesn’t just teach fighting

techniques, it also teaches you how to become aware of your surroundings and most importantly, avoid a dangerous situation.”

In addition, Tom’s Taboolley Mediterranean Café is sponsoring a special event, “For the Love of Esme Self Defense Class,” presented by Dan Kiser of Austin Self Defense this Thursday at 4 p.m. Donations given at the event will go to Barrera’s family.



ON THE WEB:  
To see a video of self defense classes, check out  
[http://bit.ly/dt\\_kungfu](http://bit.ly/dt_kungfu)

# Texas primaries delayed by lawsuit, map dispute

By Chris Tomlinson  
The Associated Press

AUSTIN — A federal court in San Antonio said Monday that the only way to hold Texas’ primary elections on April 3 is for all sides to agree on temporary political maps by a Feb. 6 deadline.

“If all parties want to maintain the current election schedule, they should confer and submit agreed-upon maps for this court’s consideration,” Judge Orlando Garcia wrote in his order. “The court would not be bound by any such agreement but would take it into careful consideration in announcing interim plans.”

The Texas primaries have been delayed by a lawsuit brought by minority groups over the legislative and congressional maps drawn by the Legislature and the refusal of a federal court in Washington to declare them valid. The primaries were scheduled for Mar. 6, pushed back to April 3 and made uncertain by a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on Thursday.

Attorney General Greg Abbott asked the court to quickly draw temporary maps so that Texas can still hold its primary on April 3. But the minority groups asked for more time to explain what they think the maps should look like. That extra time to present evidence would force the court to delay the vote again.

The three judges hearing the case told both sides that the only way to keep the elections on April 3 is for everyone involved in the case to agree, but that is highly unlikely. Abbott has repeatedly called for the judges to use the maps passed by the Legislature, and the plaintiffs said they were satisfied with the first set of interim maps drawn by the court.

The U.S. Supreme Court, though, found those draft maps fatally flawed and ordered the San Antonio judges back to the drawing board, creating the new time crunch. The San Antonio judges have asked the parties to create compromise maps before but without success.

At issue is how the maps, drawn last year by Republicans in the Legislature, treat minorities. Republican

leaders say the maps merely benefit their party’s candidates, but minority groups claim they discriminate by diluting minority voting power. Texas must redraw political districts every 10 years to adjust for population changes.

Texas will add four new congressional districts next year because of population growth, mostly among minorities. But only one of the new districts drawn by the Legislature would likely elect a minority.

The San Antonio court recognized Abbott’s request for urgency by moving a meeting with the attorneys involved up five days to Jan. 27, but also agreed with the minority groups, which include the Mexican American Legislative Caucus and the NAACP, that if the court must draw new maps, it must hear new testimony in light of the Supreme Court’s decision.

If the attorney general and the minority groups cannot agree on temporary maps, the judges said the vote will be delayed or split into two dates. On the first date, voters would cast ballots for the presidency and other offices that are not defined by political districts. The second primary, at a later date, would take place after the court could draw new temporary maps on its own.

A so-called split primary would double what it costs the state and counties to hold the primary election. State and county officials told the court in December that they don’t have the \$15 million it would cost to vote twice and state Republican and Democratic party leaders oppose the option. Experts say a split primary would likely diminish voter participation.

The judges in San Antonio are hearing the discrimination case, but they are waiting on another case in Washington, D.C., where a separate panel is judging if the Legislature’s maps are legal under the Voting Rights Act. The judges said they hoped the Washington court would rule as quickly as possible so that their decision could be used to draft the new maps, if that responsibility falls on the courts.

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# Future bright for senior All-American



Fanny Trang | Daily Texan Staff

Senior Neil Caskey has enjoyed a magnificent career at Texas, earning All-American honors while helping the Longhorns capture their 10th national title under Eddie Reese in 2010.

## Former national champion latest to leave lasting mark on Longhorn swim program

By Matt Warden  
Daily Texan Staff

On a team ranked No. 2 in the country, it can be difficult to stand out. Senior swimmer Neil Caskey has done this and more for the Longhorns all season long.

Caskey has dominated the competition this season, winning at least one event in every meet except one. To those closest to the team this comes as no surprise.

“Neil is a leader by his exam-

ple and his training every single day,” said assistant coach Kris Kubik. “He has done seasonal and lifetime bests several times this year, and predicts to be a very big factor in the NCAA scoring for us.”

Voted a senior captain by his teammates, his success has clearly been recognized and rewarded. But every story has a beginning.

“I started swimming at about six years old in a summer league group,” Caskey said. “Swimming started working out best for me and at about age 14 I stopped everything else and went full-time swimming from there.”

Every time Caskey enters the

pool, his supreme athletic ability is on display.

“In swimming there’s talented people, and there’s people who aren’t as talented that can outwork those people,” Caskey said. “And you can see a direct effect and your hard work pay off when you beat those more talented people.”

He’s a captain, a former All-American and likely a future Olympic medalist. With accolades like this, Caskey boasts an “it” factor that no one can ignore.

“He’s not the most vocal person in the team meetings,” Kubik said. “But when he speaks, everyone listens because it is very important to the team dynamic.”

Caskey appears to be the type

of athlete and man that any school would kill to have. But the Longhorns were always the front-runners in the Caskey sweepstakes.

“It was the tradition and swimming under [men’s swimming and diving head] coach Eddie [Reese], who I think is the best coach in the world,” Caskey said. “And I’m from Houston, so that definitely played a role in it too.”

At UT, sports are the glue that holds the storied history together. Although Caskey was brought here for this reason, he is capitalizing on some other fruits it has to offer.

“I’m studying advertising,” Caskey said. “I’m in a couple of advertising groups that I do

weekly meetings for and spread the word for that.”

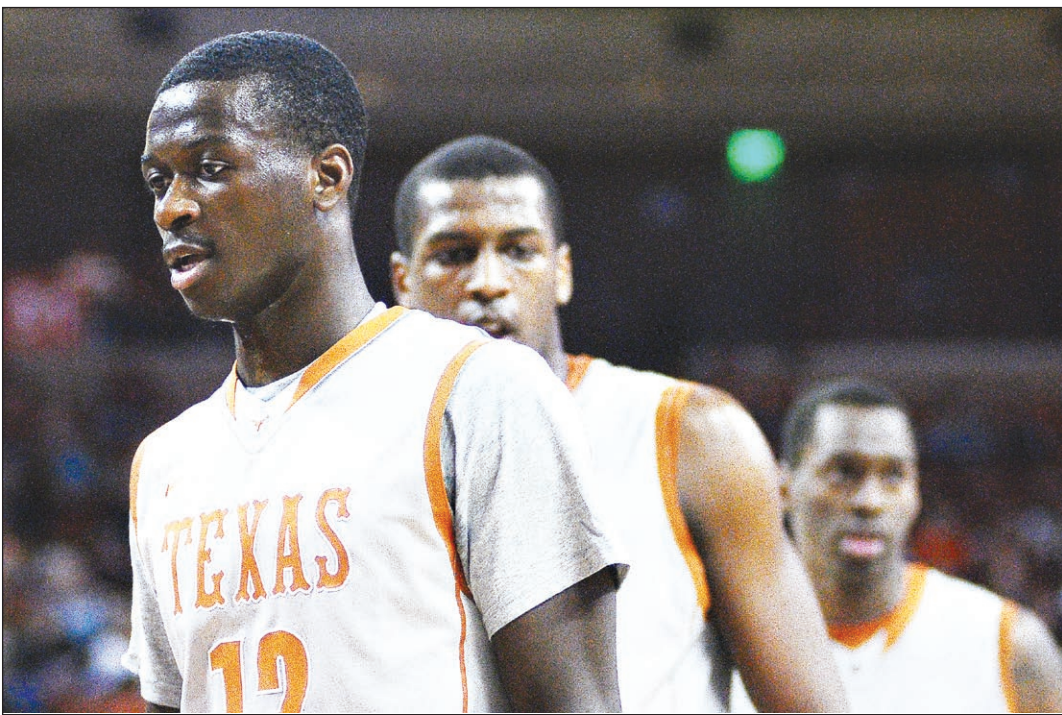
Four seasons nearly under his belt, and Caskey’s future seems as bright as the sun. The path is lit, and confidence in his next accomplishment looms.

“I think Neil would like to medal in two or three events at the National Championships, which would earn him All-American status again,” Kubik said. “And at this stage that’s looking like exactly what he will do, and we expect him to be standing on that podium representing UT and shooting up the Hook’ em Horns.”

A winning talent, attitude

**CASKEY** continues on **PAGE 9**

## MEN’S BASKETBALL Texas vs. Iowa State



Lawrence Pearl | Daily Texan Staff

Freshman point guard Myck Kabongo committed as many turnovers as the number of points he scored (three) against Kansas Saturday, leaving J’Covan Brown to handle the bulk of the ball-handling duties.

## Longhorns need more from Kabongo

By Austin Laymance  
Daily Texan Staff

Rick Barnes expected J’Covan Brown to be the Longhorns’ leading scorer this season. But the coach didn’t envision Brown becoming the team’s de facto point guard. That duty was supposed to rest with Myck Kabongo.

However, Brown is handling the ball more now and initiating the offense with Kabongo, who is struggling to grasp his role as floor general. As the third freshman starting point guard in the last three years under Barnes,

Kabongo mixes flashes of brilliance with ugly turnovers and poor execution.

During the Longhorns’ three-game losing streak, the Toronto native has a team-worst 13 turnovers against 24 assists. In six Big 12 games, Kabongo ranks sixth in the league with a 1.85 assist-to-turnover ratio (37 assists, 20 turnovers). Brown is second with 22 dimes and only eight giveaways, a 2.75 ratio.

Texas is 2-4 in the Big 12 for the first time in 14 years under Barnes and UT will need improved point

guard play if they want to climb out of the conference cellar. Iowa State visits the Frank Erwin Center tonight with the Longhorns looking for payback after a road loss to the Cyclones on Jan. 4.

In fairness, Kabongo is navigating his first season of college hoops and — prior to Saturday’s loss to Kansas — was UT’s primary ball handler, a formula destined for a large number of turnovers.

But failure to take care of the ball wasn’t all that kept Kabon-

**KABONGO** continues on **PAGE 9**

## BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

# Baylor’s two-game skid a testament to conference strength

By Sameer Bhuchar  
Daily Texan Staff

The No. 7 Baylor Bears began the season playing at a top-tier level. They won 17 games in a row and looked well on their way to being the outright frontrunner’s for the conference crown, until consecutive losses to No. 5 Kansas and No. 2 Missouri derailed that route.

Baylor head coach Scott Drew believes his team’s problems are solvable, but it will naturally be tough given the conference’s surprising strength this year.

“I think offensively we’ve been very good in both games,” Drew

said. “But we have not guarded and rebounded like we have previously. But in the Big 12 you’ve got to give credit to everyone and I don’t think anyone has been able to figure out what Missouri is doing offensively.”

Baylor isn’t a particularly high-scoring team, but the Bears run an efficient offense based on high percentage shots. They shoot the ninth best field goal percentage in the nation. However, Baylor already ranks 62nd in rebounding, pulling down more than 37 a game, but







**RATLIFF** continues on **PAGE 9**




L.G. Patterson | Associated Press

Missouri senior forward Ricardo Ratliffe pulls down a rebound against Texas A&M. One of the Tigers’ seven scholarship players, earned Big 12 Player of the Week honors after a 27-point effort against Baylor.

## SIDELINE

NCAAB	
 TEXAS A&M	54
 KANSAS	64
NBA	
 SPURS	104
 HORNETS	102
 SUNS	87
 MAVERICKS	93

## TWEET OF THE DAY



Miles Onyegbule  
@MilesOnyay81

“Here at UT our DBs are part of some secret society, don’t ever know what they up too! #Illuminati #DBU.”

## SPOTLIGHT

**NNEKA ENEMKPALI #3**



**Sport:** Basketball  
**Position:** Forward  
**Height:** 6’1”  
**Class:** Freshman  
**Hometown:** Pflugerville, TX

Before last week, Nneka Enemkpali had not started a game for the Lady Longhorns. But after an impressive showing in her first couple of starts, the freshman forward was named Big 12 Co-Freshman of the Week. Enemkpali scored just four points on 2-of-6 shooting in 30 minutes of last Wednesday’s 62-60 win over Iowa State while dropping a season-high nine points and pulling down eight rebounds Saturday in a loss to Oklahoma. She shares the accolade with the Sooners’ Sharane Campbell, who has earned Big 12 Freshmen of the Week honors three times this season. This marks the second time a Longhorns player has been recognized by the conference’s weekly awards as sophomore guard Chassidy Fussell was named Big 12 Player of the Week last November.

## SPORTS BRIEFLY

### Astros considering changing team name before move to AL

HOUSTON — New Houston Astros owner Jim Crane is considering changing the name of the franchise as well as its uniforms.

Crane says the team will conduct a study to decide whether or not to change the name. He says switching uniforms is something they are “highly considering.”

Any changes wouldn’t happen until 2013 when Houston makes the move from the National League to the American League.

Crane’s comments came at an event to announce several fan initiatives. The biggest move is a five percent rebate on full-season and 27-game season ticket accounts that are renewed by Jan. 31. The cheapest at the park will be cut from \$7 to \$5.

The Astros will also allow fans to bring water and a small amount of food inside the stadium.

— The Associated Press



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Lady Longhorns limping through conference competition

By Stefan Scrafield  
Daily Texan Staff

While the women's struggles have received less attention than their male counterparts, Texas hasn't quite lived up to expectations so far this year. Slow starts, poor offensive execution and untimely injuries have the Longhorns failing to live up to all the preseason hype. Texas, who was third in the Big 12 preseason poll, currently sits at eighth place in the conference standings. "We talked about the fact that the Big 12 is such a war," said head coach Gail Goestenkers, who many believe has failed to live up to expectations since arriving in Austin in 2007. "We're so evenly balanced throughout the conference. Many of the games are going to come down to the wire."

This year's Longhorns team has had an unusually tough time in the first half of games. Texas has outscored its opponent in the second frame of three of its last four losses, but the first-half deficits were just too much to overcome in each case. The Longhorns game against No. 1 Baylor University on Jan. 15 was a great example of the squad's early game issues. Less than seven minutes into the game, Baylor had gotten out to a 19-point lead and was on pace to walk all over the undersized Longhorns. However, from that point on, Texas kept pace with the Bears and outscored the country's best team, 30-28, in the second half. "I am disappointed overall in

our focus, energy and effort," Goestenkers said. "There is no excuse for that. If you are going to compete against a great team, you have to have everyone show up and play. You have to be energized, be focused and be confident right from the opening tip." Another area of concern for the Longhorns this year has been the team's inability to convert on the offensive end. Texas ranks no better than fifth in any of the 14 offensive team statistics measured by the Big 12 and finds itself in the bottom half of the conference in 12 of those categories. Goestenkers and many of the team's upperclassmen are looking to the freshmen to step up now that they have had a chance to get some experience. "Usually when you start second semester and you've had a couple of Big 12 games un-

der your belt," Goestenkers said. "That's when we tell the freshmen that they're no longer freshmen, so they need to act like sophomores. I think they have started to turn the corner on the defensive end. Now I'm expecting more from them offensively." Although many of the Longhorns early season wounds have been self-inflicted, a couple key injuries have also put the team behind the eight ball throughout the year. Sophomore guard Chelsea Bass, the team's leading scorer off the bench, missed a few important games early on in the season while sophomore post Cokie Reed has missed the last three games with a lower leg injury. "Cokie remains day-to-day," Goestenkers said. "We're hoping to have her as soon as possible. It would be a big boost to us. Either way, we're ready to play."

LONGHORNS IN BIG 12 PLAY				
Opponent	1st Half FG%	2nd Half FG%	Total FG%	Result
Kansas	25.9%	50.0%	40.6%	L, 72-67
Oklahoma St.	26.1%	21.2%	23.2%	L, 70-51
Texas A&M	53.1%	42.9%	47.8%	W, 76-71
Baylor	34.3%	32.3%	33.3%	L, 77-59
Iowa St.	37.0%	50.0%	43.4%	W, 62-60
Oklahoma	25.0%	34.1%	30.1%	L, 73-67



Sophomore Cokie Reed, who missed all of last season, is currently listed as day-to-day with a right leg injury. The Lady Longhorns are 2-4 in Big 12 play.

Elisabeth Dillon  
Daily Texan Staff

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Texas relying too heavily on leading scorer



By Chris Hummer  
Daily Texan Columnist

The final shot and the range of emotions that can come with it are what people remember looking back on games, and lately for Texas, all of those last-second memories have been painful. They have lost two straight contests in the last minute, botching a handoff on the final possession against Kansas State and failing to convert on a last second three-pointer on Saturday against Kansas. Both possessions were mishandled in one way or another by Texas, but after the way the offense had been playing previously, it was not totally unexpected. Right now, the offense is stagnant. Too often the Longhorns will wind down the shot clock by passing the ball around the perimeter, then give

it to J'Covan Brown with around 15 seconds remaining expecting him to make a play. Many times he has delivered in those situations. He is the leading scorer in the Big 12 at 19.5 points a game, and has put a young Texas squad on his back on multiple occasions this season. But the Longhorns' heavy reliance on Brown has its flaws. Often players will pass up an open shot to get the ball to Brown, and he is not scared to take it. He has averaged 27 field goal attempts in his last two games while shooting a paltry 27.8 percent from the field. The team exemplified this reliance on Brown in the last minute of the Kansas State game. Freshman point guard Myck Kabongo forced a hand-off to Brown at half court resulting in a turnover, costing the team the opportunity to win the game. "J'Covan is a terrific shooter" Kabongo said. "He is the best player on

“Those are the plays we need to make. It’s a game plan.”  
— Rick Barnes, Texas head coach

our team, so of course the team is going to be on him defensively. I should have tried to get the ball to him through the back door or get him open a different way." It also seems that at times, Brown will feel he has to make a spectacular play despite the double team many opponents send his way, instead of taking advantage of it and

finding the open man. But Brown knows his team needs him to put the ball in the hoop, so he puts up an unwise shot anyway. However, this idea the team has that the whole possession needs to run through Brown has to change. Not only in the last few minutes of the game, but early on as well. The Longhorns will often get off to slow starts because they throw up jump shots from the perimeter instead of looking for easy scoring opportunities in the paint. This Texas team is small, but they can still get the ball inside. Forwards like Clint Chapman have the ability to put the ball in the hoop, as he showed in his 15-point performance against a strong Kansas front line. The guards have a role to play inside as well. They need to make a more conscious effort to drive the ball into the lane looking to create, instead of staying on the perimeter and settling for jump shots. This issue was



J'Covan Brown fights through a double team Saturday against Kansas. The junior guard is shooting 27.8 percent over his last two games.

clear to head coach Rick Barnes during the first half of the Kansas game. "I think the other guys do not realize how hard they need to work to get open," he said. "I told the team at halftime that at some time we would have to throw the ball inside. Early in the game we wanted to run hard and post up. I can tell you those guys were there, and we never even looked at them. Those are the plays we need to make. It's a game plan." Moving forward there will have to be a change of attitude for this team to be successful. The offense cannot just revolve around Brown. If it doesn't happen, Texas' poor offense may cause them to miss the NCAA tournament for the first time in 14 years.

Elisabeth Dillon | Daily Texan Staff



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FOOTBALL

Longhorns 2012 football commit Sanders sounds off



Twitter Interview

By Sameer Bhuchar  
Daily Texan Staff

Once again, Texas is set to reel in one of college football's finest recruiting classes. Signing day is a little over a week away and one of the 24 high school prospects slated to begin their Longhorn career this fall Athens High School product Kendall Sanders. He pledged to play for Oklahoma State last February before switching his commitment to Texas in December, about a week after he was offered a scholarship to play for the Longhorns. Whether Sanders — who registered two interceptions in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl earlier this month — will play wide receiver or defensive back is still unknown. So many athletes use Twitter these days that it is often the best way to get to know their personalities. We used it to get to know the man under the helmet and behind the keyboard in 140 characters or less. Here's what Sanders had to say:

Sameer Bhuchar (@SameerBhuchar)  
Daily Texan sports editor here! We like to do fun twitter interviews with UT recruits. You down?  
Kendall Sanders (@kendallespn10)  
yeah  
Sameer Bhuchar  
What was the single biggest deciding factor that made you decide UT?  
Kendall Sanders  
When they finally OFFERED me lol ive always grew up wanting to come here  
Sameer Bhuchar  
Haha alright 1 more serious one then we'll get to fun stuff. I read some say you may be a better DB. What do u say to them?  
Kendall Sanders  
They just haven't seen me on the other side yet I think I'll change their mind when we start workouts  
Sameer Bhuchar  
Good answer! Ok lets shift gears. You've got three celebrities to be stuck with on an island. Who do you choose? Why?  
Kendall Sanders  
lol yo that's like the most strang-

Kendall Sanders  
Kim Kardashian bc I need something beautiful to look at then my boy Wayne for tunes & I'll take someone smart so we can survive  
Sameer Bhuchar  
Perhaps @BearGrylls would be useful?  
Kendall Sanders  
yeah lol  
Sameer Bhuchar  
youlike Weezy, huh? Favorite song? Album? You listen to him b4 games to pump yourself up?  
Kendall Sanders  
ohyeah and I'll have to say The whole carter 3 he was so hungry to be the best, & The Champ by Nelly is the motivationsong  
Sameer Bhuchar  
Yeah I gotta say I liked Carter 3 more than I liked 4  
Kendall Sanders  
yeah same here  
Sameer Bhuchar  
Ok here's an interesting question.. how old would you be if you didn't know how old you really are?  
Kendall Sanders  
lol yo that's like the most strang-

est question know to man lol but I'll be 21 lol  
Sameer Bhuchar  
Lol yes I know..but I ran across it in a philosophy book! And the #grassisalwaysgreener i suppose,cuz I wish I were 18 again  
Sameer Bhuchar  
Who are you rooting for in the super bowl this year?  
Kendall Sanders  
Giants s/o to my boy A. Ross Aka AJ #31  
Sameer Bhuchar  
Final question! What non-football thing are you most excited about doing/seeing when you make it to the 40 Acres?  
Kendall Sanders  
Meeting new people and just enjoy my city ATX \m/  
Sameer Bhuchar  
That's whats up. It's been a pleasure. Thnx for taking the time out and you can check this out online tomorrow! Have a good 1  
Kendall Sanders  
anytime bruh and what website  
Sameer Bhuchar  
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# Board of regents mulling contract extension for Brown

By Jim Vertuno  
The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — University of Texas regents are considering making changes to football coach Mack Brown's contract.

Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds said last month he wanted to extend Brown's current contract, which runs through 2016, by a couple of years to help end rumors Brown would soon retire.

The regents scheduled a Thursday telephone meeting. Brown's contract is the only agenda item and details were not released.

Brown, 60, is one of the highest paid coaches in the country at \$5.2 million per year. Texas went 8-5 with a win in the Holiday Bowl in 2011, his 14th season with the Longhorns. He had his first losing season at Texas in 2010 when the Longhorns finished 5-7.

Brown is 141-39 overall Texas, including a 12-13 mark over the last two years in the Big 12.

Texas won the 2005 national championship and played for the BCS championship again in 2009, losing to Alabama.



Gregory Bull | Associated Press  
Texas head coach Mack Brown celebrates following his team's 21-10 win over Cal in the Holiday Bowl. Brown's contract could be extended this week.

## KABONGO

continues from PAGE 7

go on the bench against the Jayhawks. The rookie played 25 minutes against KU, well below his 30.2 average.

"I didn't even think he played that many," said Brown, who logs over 33 minutes per game.

So why did Barnes move away from Kabongo?

"We need to run offense," said Barnes, who hasn't hesitated to criticize his freshman point guard. "And when he left the game, it was probably good. I thought he got a little bit upset because when he went back he did exactly what he needed to do for us."

And when Kabongo isn't running the offense to Barnes' liking, Brown becomes the only reliable option. Backup point guard Sterling Gibbs did not play Saturday. The freshman played himself out of the rotation with two turnovers in three total minutes in losses to Missouri and Kansas State.

"Even though J'Covan is not going to push the ball at the pace that we would like to go, he does have an awareness to get us organized," Barnes said. "We started getting the ball reversed, side to side. That's experience, obviously, but we've got to be organized coming down the floor. That's what J'Covan did for us."

But being a point guard is not what the Longhorns (12-7) need from their leading scorer. Brown may take better care of the rock than Kabongo, but the ball often never left his hands against KU (he took 26 shots).

Kabongo will start against the Cyclones, but if he fails to execute the offensive game plan, Barnes won't hesitate to put the ball in Brown's hands.

"The one thing you want is consistency," Barnes said. "You want to know what you're going to get."

For now, the Longhorns just don't know what they'll get from Kabongo. He recorded double-doubles against Mizzou and K-State, but disappeared against Kansas. Kabongo had five assists and four turnovers against the Cyclones (14-5; 4-2 Big 12) in the conference opener, a ratio that must improve for UT to end its skid.

## RATLIFFE

continues from PAGE 7

couldn't snag nearly that many boards in its last two contests.

**Missouri's limited roster not an issue**

The Tigers, on the other hand, have yet to show signs of weakness. Though Missouri has lost one game, its offense is playing at such a high level that is only getting better, and the Tigers have forward Ricardo Ratliffe to thank.

Ratliffe averages almost 15 points a game and scored a team-

high 27 against Baylor last weekend. His performance earned him Big 12 Player of the Week honors.

"I think the neat thing about Ricardo being big guy is that he moves well," Missouri head coach Frank Haith said. "A lot of our ball screen stuff puts him in different angles. His low post-presence is still a factor."

The Tigers like to pound the ball through Ratliffe and their other bigs, which has some beginning to wonder if the team is built to last in the grueling tournament phases of the season. There are only seven members on the active roster.

"We got to keep our guys fresh, but we also have to keep our guys on par with what we are doing,"

Haith said. "It is a process, we are focusing on. With only seven guys and the minutes they are playing, I think we've done a good job."

**Kansas State's confidence peaking**

The No. 24 Wildcats are back in the national rankings after falling out of favor with the pollsters when they lost to Baylor and Oklahoma over a week ago. They've since rattled off two wins against Texas and Oklahoma State, and head coach Frank Martin attributes his young team's reemergence to a change in attitude.

"Our enthusiasm for who we are is getting back to where it needs to be," Martin said. "Our

young kids are starting to get that enthusiasm and confidence back a little. And that is our job as coaches. I think we as coaches have done a better job of getting those guys back on task."

That enthusiasm may translate into another easy win over Texas Tech tomorrow. The Red Raiders have yet to win a conference game, but Martin is not overlooking them.

"I don't see us not getting Texas Tech's best shot," he said. "I watched them play Kansas on tape, and Kansas got away from them in the second half, but that first half was a meat grinder of a game. I mean, they guarded, they rebounded, they attacked Kansas."

## CASKEY

continues from PAGE 7

and charisma have made Caskey a household name amongst fans and friends alike. If swimming ever ends, Caskey's winning ways will never halt.

"Neil is a person who cares about others, and a person who if you spend more than five minutes with him you will have a friend for life," Kubik said. "Neil is someone who will be successful in whatever he chooses to do down the line."

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By DAVID OUELLET

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# Porcelain Raft's debut album disappoints after dreamy EPs

## CD REVIEW



**Strange Weekend**  
*Porcelain Raft*  
**Genre:** Indie pop  
**Tracks:** 10  
**For those who like:** M83, Blood Diamond  
**Web:** porcelainraft.com

By Elizabeth Hinojos  
Daily Texan Staff

Fans of a musician Mauro Remiddi looked forward to a solid full-length album to follow up singles, EPs and solo project Porcelain Raft. After Remiddi's first EP, *Gone Blind*, audiences had high hopes for his LP, *Strange Weekend*. But instead of the anticipated ethereal delight present in his previous work, the mechanized dream pop LP falls short of impressive.

A man of many musical endeavors, Remiddi has written music for Italian film scores, traveled as a gypsy musician playing klezmer music with a youth circus from Berlin, played piano for tap performances off-Broadway and was a part of the indie-pop duo Sunny Day Sets Fire.

Perhaps *Strange Weekend* proves that bouncing around from genre to genre may not be the best idea if you want to release a fresh and synthetic psych-wave album.

A change of pace seems appropriate in the midst of stretched-out guitar loops, keyboard and synthesizer. But this is where *Strange Weekend* falters. Instead, Remiddi cakes his compressed and shrill vocals on top of conventional lo-fi

arrangements, and gives in to his urge to use a disparate and layered falsetto. It's as though the musician tries to cover up his strained vocals with prerecorded loops of his own echoey "ooohs" and "ahhhs," but the constant reverb proves ineffective. In "Backwords," Remiddi's vocals become cheesy, with the same vacuous laptop samples we've heard before from artists like Blood Diamonds and Youth Lagoon.

Repetitious distortion at the end of various songs detracts from originality, as listeners seem to experience the same song 10 different times. The opening song, "Drifting In and Out," brings the notion of meandering to mind. It's easy to detract from Remiddi's "hooks" as they distance the audience with the same chords of monotonous strumming, ongoing bell chimes and drum sequences synonymous with one another.

Remiddi's focus presents the stifled feeling that his vision is overly narrow as he compensates for his lack of meaning with repetition. Droning samples are easily tuned out. Within the mediocrity Porcelain Raft creates, it's difficult to tell what makes *Strange Weekend* so strange after all.



Photo courtesy of Porcelain Raft

Indie electro-pop musician, Porcelain Raft a.k.a. Mauro Remiddi, releases his first LP, *Strange Weekend*.

# Cloud Nothings aim to capture grunge, alternative '90s sound

By Elijah Watson  
Daily Texan Staff

Cloud Nothings would have fit in perfectly during the 1990s alternative rock scene. With their aggressive yet melodic guitar riffs and angry, half-sung, half-spoken vocals that are, at times, indecipherable, Cloud Nothings have a sense of nostalgia about them. From their debut album *Turning On*, to their latest release, *Attack on Memory*, the band has shown a knack for creating heavy riffs and catchy melodies.

Cloud Nothings, once a gritty, lo-fi band, has since become a full group since its inception in the basement of lead singer and guitarist Dylan Baldi's home in 2009. Baldi, whose self-made, premature recordings made up Cloud Nothings' first two releases, would soon find an underground following, foreshadowing the songwriter's inevitable rise to indie rock popularity.

Now, Baldi is more refined: The days of recording in his basement are a thing of the past, and now, with the help of acclaimed Nirvana and Pixies producer Steve Albini, his latest release, *Attack on Memory*, is an impressive work of memorable hooks and unrelenting energy.

Album opener "No Future/No Past," sounds like the result of a non-stop *In Utero* listening party.

An eerie discordance silently looms behind Baldi's monotonous delivery — his voice half-singing, half-mumbling as the intensity grows with every guttural crescendo.

"Fall In" one of the album's melodic gems, begins with soothing harmonies before being bombarded by punchy guitar riffs and explosive cymbals.

"Separation" is reminiscent of the old songs of At the Drive-In; it begins with an intimidating forcefulness that grows into a catastrophic ball of sound, keeping you on edge until the music dwindles into silence. It is songs like these that show the band's potential. Although they are reminiscent of groups that came before them, Cloud Nothings manages to create their own sound, retaining the distorted, gritty beginnings that first captivated listeners.

Where the band finds problems is in their lack of cohesiveness and reliance on repetition. Sometimes this repetition is beneficial: for example, "No Future/No Past" rides on the same chords for some time, but redeems itself with a barrage of crescendoing guitars and drums that add to the song's mysterious atmosphere, the transitions heavy and powerful. At other times, it is completely detrimental. "Wasted Days," an almost nine-minute epic, becomes

## CD REVIEW



**Attack on Memory**  
*Cloud Nothings*

**Genre:** Indie Rock  
**Tracks:** 8  
**For those who like:** Nirvana, Pixies  
**Web:** <http://www.facebook.com/cloud-nothings>

a challenge to listen to after the four-minute mark. It fails to gain any momentum, and the lack of dynamics and cohesiveness between transitions make the song feel much longer than it is.

Unlike Sonic Youth, who could go on eight-minute long escapades that remain captivating from beginning to end, Cloud Nothings cannot do the same. Sonic Youth's "Teenage Riot" is definitive because, regardless of its seven-minute mark, the song ascends and descends flawlessly with intensity, each idea allowed to grow and expand before moving on. Unfortunately, "Wasted Days" does nothing like that. The ideas are there, but towards the end it becomes a sluggish journey that becomes difficult to get through.

Another issue is Baldi's vocal delivery, which can also go both ways. The monotonous, screech-

to-yelp-to-groan technique can be distracting at times. This happens in "No Sentiment," where the lead singer's raspy vocals result in an off-pitch delivery that takes away from the song. Baldi tries to emulate Kurt Cobain, only to sound like a dying animal. Yet, there are songs like "Cut You," where Baldi's delivery makes the song that much more enthralling. "I need something I can hurt," Baldi sings desperately, the dissonance in his voice discomforting.

*Attack on Memory* is an impressive and noteworthy release from the group. The band presents itself with a level of confidence that distinguishes it from its 1990s counterparts. There is still room for improvement, but considering that the album retains those pop sensibilities and dread-filled melodic hooks that first introduced us to Cloud Nothings, there is plenty of good to be found here.

# Foxy Shazam displays growth with new progressive album

By Elijah Watson  
Daily Texan Staff

Defining themselves as "the Michael Jordan of rock 'n' roll," six-piece rabble-rousing rockers Foxy Shazam are distinct and distinguishable like their basketball counterpart. "We want to be the biggest band in the world," wrote lead vocalist Eric Nally on the band's website. "We want to stand for our generation."

The basketball maestro's influence on the group is unquestionable; for their self-titled 2010 album, the front cover featured Nally and three women, all sporting number 23 jerseys in homage to Jackson.

The group epitomizes showmanship in their live performances: Nally will sometimes hang upside-down over rafters, requesting cigarettes and lighters from the audience so that he can smoke momentarily, only to swallow the cigarettes shortly after; co-vocalist/trumpeter Alex Nauth sways back and forth, throwing his trumpet in the air and catching it with absolute grace; bassist Daisy Caplan, guitarist Loren Turner and pianist Sky White only add to the group's cacophony, with White

maniacally stomping on his keyboard while Turner and Caplan provide unrelenting rock riffs; and lastly, there is drummer Aaron McVeigh, the locomotive that keeps this rock 'n' roll train from having a catastrophic conclusion.

It's a lot to take in, but it's this larger-than-life persona, in addition to their always-evolving sound, that has contributed to the band's gradual success. Returning with their fourth album, *The Church of Rock and Roll*, Foxy Shazam hopes to convert and baptize non-believers by proving one thing: they are the future of rock 'n' roll. Having started off as post-hardcore, the band has exchanged their discordant, heavy beginnings for something much more melodic and memorable.

The pearly gates of Shazam's church opens with "Welcome to the Church of Rock and Roll," an ode to arena rock anthems with its pounding drums and Queen-like bravado. "You're all suckers, a flock of sheep, I'll be your shepherd, follow me," Nally confidently sings, the band's extraordinary sound powerful and welcoming.

"I Like It," the first single from

## CD REVIEW



**The Church of Rock and Roll**  
*Foxy Shazam*

**Genre:** Rock  
**Tracks:** 11  
**For those who like:** The Darkness, Meatloaf  
**Web:** <http://foxyshazam.com>

the album, oozes with sex appeal. Any doubt of that can be put to rest by the song's chorus: "That's the biggest black ass I've ever seen," Nally sings, his declaration backed by the resounding cry, "and I like it!"

"Wasted Feelings" shows Nally channeling his inner Prince, his falsetto effortless and sensual. Turner explodes towards the end with a powerful guitar solo, before doing a guitar-vocalist duet that is reminiscent of Guns N' Roses' Slash and Axl Rose.

*The Church of Rock and Roll* is a celebration: A celebration of change, progress and success, all of which is evident in comparison to their past releases. *Church* is never dull; each song serves a purpose to the album,

revealing the band's growth as musicians. Past albums such as *The Flamingo Trigger* and *Introducing* could never find a balance, resulting in albums that had no real resonance. Church shows the band keeping the good and getting rid of the bad, without losing their mystique.

Sure, there are not any of those definitive half-scream, half-yelp screeches that first introduced us to Nally, or the finger-pounding keys that proved that White is one of rock's underrated pianists, but the growth of the band is apparent. In changing their sound, Foxy Shazam have finally found a medium in which they can still be as raw as they want, while creating infectious catchy tunes.

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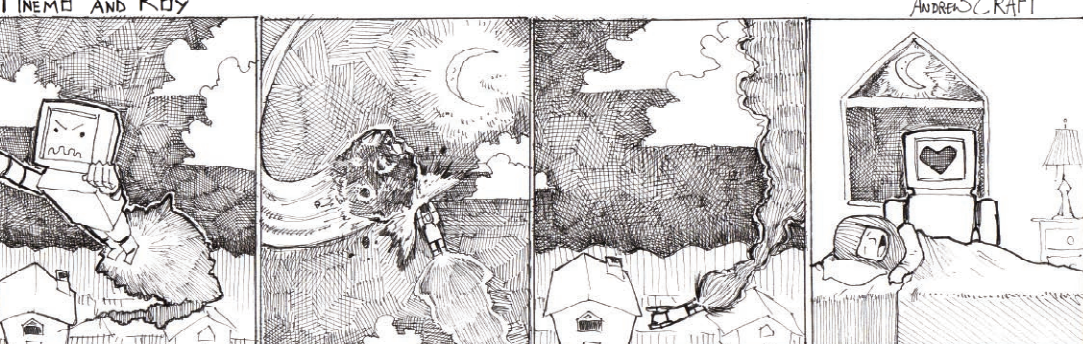
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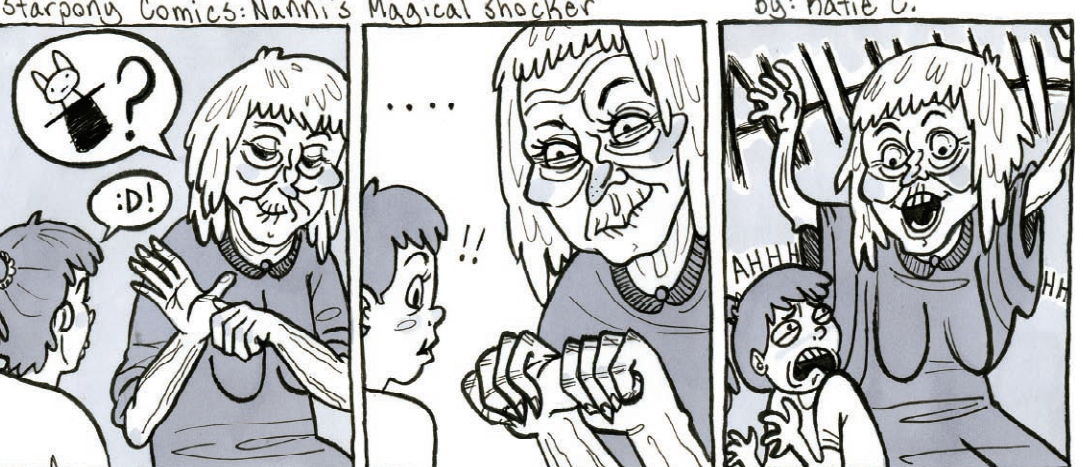
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# Streeps' performance as Margaret Thatcher deserves Oscar

By Isaac Gomez  
Daily Texan Staff

For every movie, documentary and foreign film buff, the start of the new year stands as a reminder that the Academy Awards are right around the corner. With award nominees revealed each January, it's no surprise that award-winning actress Meryl Streep is a leading contender in the Best Actress category for her portrayal of Margaret Thatcher in "The Iron Lady." Her commitment to the art of acting and her ability to completely transform into a wide variety of characters has guaranteed her a near-annual nomination since 1978. If awarded, this would be the first Oscar she takes home since her leading role in "Sophie's Choice" in 1982.

Holding the most Oscar nominations of any actress in history, sixteen as of this year, Streep's performance as the former British prime minister is one of conviction, specificity and absolute physical transformation. After 30 years since she last won the award, will this be the role that wins her the next Oscar?

Streep has been known to effectively become her characters, ranging from the rambunctious, jolly and high-pitched French chef Julia Child in "Ju-

lie and Julia" (2009), to the icy, fiercely fashionable and quick-witted editor-in-chief Miranda Priestly in "The Devil Wears Prada" (2006); from a Catholic nun with a grievance against a priest ("Doubt"), to a modern version of Virginia Woolf's Mrs. Dalloway ("The Hours"). Streep's extensive training in her art is evident in the dramatic changes she makes for each individual role. Though some of her characters may seem out of the ordinary at face value, it is through her moment-to-moment characterizations, mannerisms and full-bodied physicality that she realizes a humanistic performance.

The film, shown through the lens of an elderly and nostalgic Margaret Thatcher, tells the story of her rise and fall in British parliament through a series of flashbacks as she packs away her late husband's belongings. Struggling with early signs of dementia, each object she stores sparks a memory from different moments in her life, and Streep's portrayal of Thatcher bounces between the former prime minister's past and present life.

Margaret Thatcher, the first female British prime minister with the longest-serving term of the 20th century, was widely known for her strict conservative policies, compelling speeches and

harsh rhetoric against the Soviet Union. It is through her convictions, persistence in creating change and push for a self-sufficient lifestyle that the prime minister earned the nickname "the Iron Lady." Although prosthetics and extensive film makeup were used to assist her transformation into an older Thatcher, Streep's physicality, subtle character choices and commitment to Thatcher's driven, passionate personality separate her from other nominees.

Written as a sympathetic portrayal of a prime minister who was not always well-liked by the public, the film has garnered mixed reviews. Many critics said the film lacks the range to portray Thatcher's story beyond the drama and pathos of her personal life, which limited the film. Despite the harsh criticism surrounding the film, Streep is praised in reviews for her brilliance as an actress and the totality of her transformation. Streep's portrayal is so spot-on that comparing video clips of Margaret Thatcher to the film render the two nearly indistinguishable.

This type of transformative role is not an unusual contender for the Oscar. Actresses playing famous women throughout history are commonly seen in the Best Actress category. Other actresses nominated for his-

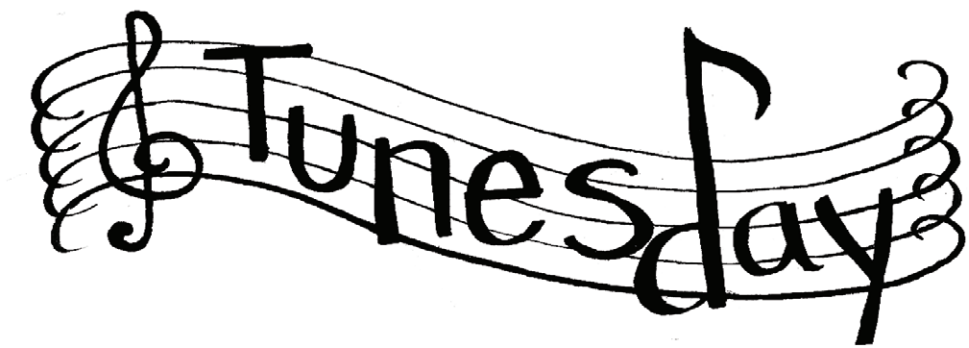
*Streep's performance as the former British prime minister is one of conviction, specificity and physical transformation.*

torical portrayals include Salma Hayek as Mexican painter Frida Kahlo in "Frida," Helen Mirren as Queen Elizabeth II in "The Queen" and Charlize Theron as the serial killer Aileen Wuornos in "Monster." Although the majority of these women undertake complete transformations to do justice to their real-life characters, Streep's Margaret Thatcher has authenticity that sets a new bar.

Already having won a Golden Globe for Best Actress in a Motion Picture Drama for "The Iron Lady," as well as holding a nomination in the same category for the Screen Actors Guild Awards, Streep is a critic favorite for the Oscar, and it seems that an Oscar win is almost inevitable — after all, 16th time's the charm.



Illustration by Jacob Hamrick



On her fifth album, *Human Again*, Ingrid Michaelson does not stray too far from the formula that made her a success. She stays firmly in her comfort zone of easy melodic pop



Photo courtesy of Ingrid Michaelson

## Michaelson's album fails to push potential

By Robert Starr  
Daily Texan Staff

With a watercolor painted album cover by Joe Sorren evoking early Joni Mitchell, one could be forgiven for thinking that Ingrid Michaelson's latest album, *Human Again*, might be an artistic foray into experimentalism. While that might have been interesting, it's not what the disc provides. Michaelson has crafted an album of unapologetic pop, with polished production by David Kahne that provides full instrumental support to her soft voice and catchy choruses. It's good stuff — very good, in fact — but it suggests an artist who's capable of more: skating by with an easy A while the rest of the class struggles to keep up.

There are plenty of highlights here. No doubt, the best track on

the album is "Ghost," a breakup song that's heartbreaking without being too slow and builds to an impressive chorus. "How We Love" is soft and bittersweet, exploring similar themes of heartbreak from a third person point of view, with Michaelson's voice feeling particularly delicate, almost like a child's. "Black and Blue," one of the more upbeat tracks, doesn't let the positive feel get in the way of the not-quite-so-optimistic lyrics. However, there isn't a dull track on the disc, even if some stand out more than others.

This is as solid an album as one can make in the indie female singer-songwriter genre. However, it almost feels a bit too safe, as if Michaelson knows her strengths and weaknesses and is trying to exploit the former rather than challenge herself to tackle to latter. She

knows how to construct a song and to choose where to place the slower ones alongside more upbeat ones on the album, but they all fit comfortably in a narrow range of been-there-before.

The next logical step for Michaelson is for her to tread into the deep end of the pool, where there's some danger of failure. She uses quite a bit of repetition on this album and it's effective — it helps make the songs catchier and more memorable — but even though she uses it well, it's a cheap device. Of course you're going to remember the title of the song if it's repeated two dozen times before the track fades out. She's mastered that trick, and now it's time to learn a new one.

*Human Again* is a superb collection of songs about heartbreak with catchy courses and introspective lyrics, and it's well worth checking out for fans of the genre. However, one senses that Michaelson can deliver even more than what she's provided with her latest release. This, along with her other work, proves she's a talent to be reckoned with, but the experimentalism suggested by the cover of the album is something she could explore next time around.

**INSIDE:** More Tuesdays album reviews **on page 10**

## Local artists please old fans, new audiences



Garage rock duo The Kills, comprised of vocalist Alison Mosshart and guitarist Jaime Hince will be performing at Stubbs Wednesday night.

Photo courtesy of The Kills

By Daniel Munoz  
Daily Texan Staff

It's sometimes difficult to wade through the massive amounts of live music that Austin hosts on a daily basis. To help illuminate your best bets for local live music, here are our picks for the best local indie music events happening this week.

### The Sweet Nuthin at Hole In the Wall

Velvet Underground fans rejoice: although Lou Reed's recent output has let down more than a few followers, Austin locals The Sweet Nuthin are the latest band to pledge allegiance to The Velvet Underground's legacy of crafting heartfelt Americana with a rock 'n' roll edge. As a bonus, they're playing right next door to UT. Before you reach for your earplugs, I should note that front man Evan Charles and company have mostly eschewed the sonic experimentalism of The Velvet Underground's white-noise romps like "White Light/White Heat" and "Heroin," showing a preference for their heroes' softer, folksier cuts — the late-era classic "Oh! Sweet Nuthin" comes to mind. Also audible in The Sweet Nuthins sound is the influence of a half century of electric-country songsmiths, from legends like Neil Young to indie inebriate Ryan Adams.

But The Sweet Nuthin have got more going for them than tastefully packed iPods and twangy traditionalism. In the killer chorus of "Back Home to Me," to take one example, guitarist Colin Peters rips a non-diatonic riff that sounds somewhere in between The Rolling Stones' *Let it Bleed* and Pixies' *Surfer Rosa*, while Chris Ritchie's melodic bass lines lock in with a beat from Z Lynch that's so laid back you start to wonder how the band manages to keep time. Yet keep time they do, and atop the barely-controlled bluesy chaos is

the tuneful hollering of a front man who's enough of a music historian to know even the hardest of rockers sometimes have to show a little sweetness.

### The Kills at Stubb's Bar-B-Q

Chain-smoking indie rockers The Kills bring their garage-rock minimalism to Stubb's Bar-B-Q Wednesday. Last year, after lead singer Alison Mosshart finished touring with her supergroup side-project The Dead Weather, the band released their fourth studio effort, *Blood Pressures*, to commercial and critical success in the U.S. and their native U.K.

While the new tunes don't stray too far from the garage-rock-plus-drum-machine formula used in their earlier recordings, this time around the grooves are bigger, and the guitars are grittier. It's difficult not to hear echoes of Mosshart's fellow Dead Weatherman Jack White in The Kills' recent riffage, but don't write them off as an ersatz White Stripes (the undeserved fate of most boy-girl indie-rock duos since The White Stripes' *White Blood Cells*). Over the last 12 years, Mosshart and guitarist James Hince have forged a sound that's part blues, part electronic and all their own. Add in the pair's undeniable chemistry and unforgettable stage presence, and you have yourself a must-see show for any fan of sex-soaked Brit-rock.

### The Gourds at Stubb's Bar-B-Q

Country meets quirky in the music of Austin favorites, The Gourds. The local alternative-country rockers, who last year released their 10th studio album, *Old Mad Joy*, are perhaps best known for their gloriously twangy take on Snoo Dogg's G-funk classic "Gin and Juice." But the song's unexpected popularity has been somewhat of a curse for the band, who have always spent most of their time working up original material. To their chagrin, not

**WHAT:** The Sweet Nuthin

**WITH:** The Space Crazies, Cory Cross

**WHERE:** Hole In the Wall

**WHEN:** Doors at 9 p.m. tonight

**COST:** Free (21+ only)

**WHAT:** The Kills

**WITH:** Jeff the Brotherhood, Hunters

**WHERE:** Stubb's Bar-B-Q

**WHEN:** Doors at 7 p.m. Wednesday

**COST:** \$23-25

**WHAT:** The Gourds

**WITH:** The Preservation

**WHERE:** Stubb's Bar-B-Q

**WHEN:** Doors at 8 p.m. Friday,

**COST:** \$15-25

a concert goes by without repeated requests for "Gin and Juice," usually coming from the more casual fans in the audience. It's not hard to imagine how the song's novelty might wear off. "We just can't do [Gin and Juice] anymore without throwing up in our mouths a little bit," admitted front man Kevin "Shinyribs" Russell in a chat with fans on Yahoo! Groups.

Nevertheless, The Gourds' hard work over the last 18 years has earned them a devoted hometown following, and their shows are guaranteed to be a good time for long-time followers and country neophytes alike. Just use your better judgment before requesting any '90s gangsta rap.



**Home Again**  
*Ingrid Michaelson*

**Genre:** Indie Rock  
**Tracks:** 15

**For those who like:**  
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**Website:** [www.ingridmichaelson.com/](http://www.ingridmichaelson.com/)